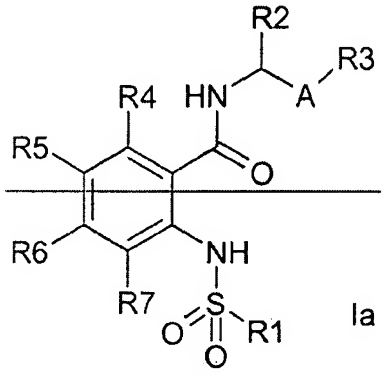
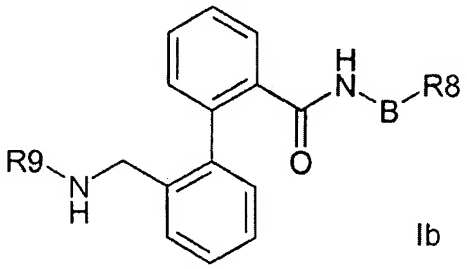
AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as indicated below. This listing of claims replaces all earlier versions of the claims in the application:

1. (Currently amended) A combination of one or more IK_r channel blockers and of one or more compounds of the formula ~~Ia or~~ Ib



Ia



Ib

or physiologically tolerable salts thereof,

in which

~~R(1) is alkyl having 3, 4 or 5 carbon atoms or quinolinyl,~~

~~R(2) is alkyl having 1, 2, 3 or 4 carbon atoms or cyclopropyl;~~

~~R(3) is phenyl or pyridyl,~~

~~where phenyl and pyridyl are unsubstituted or substituted by 1 or 2 substituents selected from the group consisting of F, Cl, CF_3, OCF_3, alkyl having 1, 2 or 3 carbon atoms and alkoxy having 1, 2 or 3 carbon atoms;~~

~~A is $-C_nH_{2n}-$;~~

~~n is 0, 1 or 2;~~

~~R(4), R(5), R(6) and R(7)~~

~~independently of one another are hydrogen, F, Cl, CF_3, OCF_3, CN, alkyl having 1, 2 or 3 carbon atoms, or alkoxy having 1, 2 or 3 carbon atoms;~~

B is $-C_mH_{2m}-$;

m is 1 or 2;

R(8) is alkyl having 2 or 3 carbon atoms, phenyl or pyridyl,

where phenyl and pyridyl are unsubstituted or substituted by 1 or 2 substituents selected from the group consisting of F, Cl, CF_3, OCF_3, alkyl having 1, 2 or 3 carbon atoms and alkoxy having 1, 2 or 3 carbon atoms;

R(9) is C(O)OR(10) or COR(10);

R(10) is $-C_xH_{2x}$-R(11);

x is 0, 1 or 2; and

R(11) is phenyl,

where phenyl is unsubstituted or substituted by 1 or 2 substituents selected from the group consisting of F, Cl, CF_3, OCF_3, alkyl having 1, 2 or 3 carbon atoms and alkoxy having 1, 2 or 3 carbon atoms.

2. (Original) The combination as claimed in claim 1, wherein the IK_r blockers are selected from the group consisting of
dofetilide, ibutilide, almokalant, dl-sotalol, d-sotalol, azimilide, amiodarone, E4031, clofilium, ambasilide, MS551, tedisamil, bertosamil and quinidine.

3. (Original) The combination as claimed in claim 2, the IK_r blockers being selected from the group consisting of
dofetilide, ibutilide, almokalant, dl-sotalol, d-sotalol, amiodarone and quinidine.

4. (Currently amended) The combination as claimed in claim 1, the IK_r blockers being selected from the group consisting of
dofetilide, ibutilide, almokalant, dl-sotalol, d-sotalol, amiodarone and quinidine and the compounds of the formula ~~Ia or~~ Ib being selected from the group consisting of
2'-{[2-(4-methoxyphenyl)acetylamino]methyl}biphenyl-2-carboxylic acid (2-pyridin-3-ylethyl)amide,
2'-(benzyloxycarbonylaminomethyl)biphenyl-2-carboxylic acid 2-(2-pyridyl)-ethylamide,
2'-{[2-(4-methoxyphenyl)acetylamino]methyl}biphenyl-2-carboxylic acid 2,4-difluoro-benzylamide,
(S)-2'-(α-methylbenzyloxycarbonylaminomethyl)biphenyl-2-carboxylic acid 2-(2-pyridyl)ethylamide,

~~2-(butyl-1-sulfonylamino)-N-[1(R)-(6-methoxypyridin-3-yl)propyl]benzamide,~~
~~2-(butyl-1-sulfonylamino)-N-(cyclopropylpyridin-3-ylmethyl)-5-methylbenz-amide,~~
~~(S)-5-fluoro-2-(quinoline-8-sulfonylamino)-N-(1-phenylpropyl)benzamide~~ and their physiologically tolerable salts.

5. (Currently amended) The combination as claimed in claim 1, comprising:
2'-{[2-(4-methoxyphenyl)acetylamino]methyl}biphenyl-2-carboxylic acid (2-pyridin-3-ylethyl)amide and ibutilide,
2'-{[2-(4-methoxyphenyl)acetylamino]methyl}biphenyl-2-carboxylic acid (2-pyridin-3-ylethyl)amide and dofetilide,
2'-{[2-(4-methoxyphenyl)acetylamino]methyl}biphenyl-2-carboxylic acid (2-pyridin-3-ylethyl)amide and amiodarone,
~~2-(butyl-1-sulfonylamino)-N-[1(R)-(6-methoxypyridin-3-yl)propyl]benzamide and ibutilide,~~
~~2-(butyl-1-sulfonylamino)-N-[1(R)-(6-methoxypyridin-3-yl)propyl]benzamide and dofetilide,~~
~~2-(butyl-1-sulfonylamino)-N-[1(R)-(6-methoxypyridin-3-yl)propyl]benzamide and amiodarone,~~
~~2-(butyl-1-sulfonylamino)-N-(cyclopropylpyridin-3-ylmethyl)-5-methylbenz-amide and ibutilide,~~
~~2-(butyl-1-sulfonylamino)-N-(cyclopropylpyridin-3-ylmethyl)-5-methylbenz-amide and dofetilide,~~
~~2-(butyl-1-sulfonylamino)-N-(cyclopropylpyridin-3-ylmethyl)-5-methylbenz-amide and amiodarone,~~
~~(S)-5-fluoro-2-(quinoline-8-sulfonylamino)-N-(1-phenylpropyl)benzamide and ibutilide,~~
~~(S)-5-fluoro-2-(quinoline-8-sulfonylamino)-N-(1-phenylpropyl)benzamide and dofetilide,~~
~~(S)-5-fluoro-2-(quinoline-8-sulfonylamino)-N-(1-phenylpropyl)benzamide and amiodarone,~~
or the physiologically tolerable salts thereof.

6. (Original) A pharmaceutical preparation comprising a combination as claimed in claim 1 as active compound, together with pharmaceutically acceptable vehicles or additives and, optionally, one or more other pharmacologically active compounds.

7. (Currently amended) A pharmaceutical product comprising one or more IK_r channel blockers together with one or more compounds of the formula ~~Ia or~~ Ib, or physiologically tolerable salts thereof, as set forth in claim 1 for simultaneous, separate or sequential administration for the treatment ~~therapy or prophylaxis~~ of atrial fibrillation or atrial flutters.

8. (Withdrawn - currently amended) A method for the treatment~~therapy or prophylaxis~~ of atrial fibrillation or atrial flutters comprising the simultaneous, separate or sequential administration of a combination as claimed in claim 1.

9. (Withdrawn) The method as claimed in claim 8, wherein in said combination the IK_r blockers are selected from the group consisting of
dofetilide, ibutilide, almokalant, dl-sotalol, d-sotalol, azimilide, amiodarone, E4031, clofilium, ambasilide, MS551, tedisamil, bertosamil and quinidine.

10. (Withdrawn) The method as claimed in claim 9, wherein in said combination the IK_r blockers are selected from the group consisting of
dofetilide, ibutilide, almokalant, dl-sotalol, d-sotalol, amiodarone and quinidine.

11. (Withdrawn - currently amended) The method as claimed in claim 8, wherein in said combination the IK_r blockers are selected from the group consisting of dofetilide, ibutilide, almokalant, dl-sotalol, d-sotalol, amiodarone and quinidine and the compounds of the formula ~~Ia or~~ Ib are selected from the group consisting of
2'-{[2-(4-methoxyphenyl)acetylamino]methyl}biphenyl-2-carboxylic acid (2-pyridin-3-ylethyl)amide,
2'-(benzyloxycarbonylaminomethyl)biphenyl-2-carboxylic acid 2-(2-pyridyl)-ethylamide,

2'-{[2-(4-methoxyphenyl)acetylamino]methyl}biphenyl-2-carboxylic acid 2,4-difluoro-benzylamide,

(S)-2'-(α-methylbenzyloxycarbonylaminomethyl)biphenyl-2-carboxylic acid 2-(2-pyridyl)ethylamide,

~~2-(butyl-1-sulfonylamino)-N-[1(R)-(6-methoxypyridin-3-yl)propyl]benzamide,~~

~~2-(butyl-1-sulfonylamino)-N-(cyclopropylpyridin-3-ylmethyl)-5-methylbenz-amide,~~

~~(S)-5-fluoro-2-(quinoline-8-sulfonylamino)-N-(1-phenylpropyl)benzamide~~

-and their physiologically tolerable salts.

12. (Withdrawn - currently amended) The method as claimed in claim 8, the combination comprising:

2'-{[2-(4-methoxyphenyl)acetylamino]methyl}biphenyl-2-carboxylic acid (2-pyridin-3-ylethyl)amide and ibutilide,

2'-{[2-(4-methoxyphenyl)acetylamino]methyl}biphenyl-2-carboxylic acid (2-pyridin-3-ylethyl)amide and dofetilide,

2'-{[2-(4-methoxyphenyl)acetylamino]methyl}biphenyl-2-carboxylic acid (2-pyridin-3-ylethyl)amide and amiodarone,

~~2-(butyl-1-sulfonylamino)-N-[1(R)-(6-methoxypyridin-3-yl)propyl]benzamide and ibutilide,~~

~~2-(butyl-1-sulfonylamino)-N-[1(R)-(6-methoxypyridin-3-yl)propyl]benzamide and dofetilide,~~

~~2-(butyl-1-sulfonylamino)-N-[1(R)-(6-methoxypyridin-3-yl)propyl]benzamide and amiodarone,~~

~~2-(butyl-1-sulfonylamino)-N-(cyclopropylpyridin-3-ylmethyl)-5-methylbenz-amide and ibutilide,~~

~~2-(butyl-1-sulfonylamino)-N-(cyclopropylpyridin-3-ylmethyl)-5-methylbenz-amide and dofetilide,~~

~~2-(butyl-1-sulfonylamino)-N-(cyclopropylpyridin-3-ylmethyl)-5-methylbenz-amide and amiodarone,~~

~~(S)-5-fluoro-2-(quinoline-8-sulfonylamino)-N-(1-phenylpropyl)benzamide and ibutilide,~~

~~(S)-5-fluoro-2-(quinoline-8-sulfonylamino)-N-(1-phenylpropyl)benzamide and dofetilide,~~

~~(S)-5-fluoro-2-(quinoline-8-sulfonylamino)-N-(1-phenylpropyl)benzamide and amiodarone,~~

or the physiologically tolerable salts thereof.